09-20-05

PTO/SB/21 (09-04) Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031 U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to ellection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number. **Application Number** 10/618,352 TRANSMITTAL Filing Date July 11, 2003 First Named Inventor **FORM** Ernst-Walter Hillebrand Art Unit 1741 **Examiner Name**

Attorney Docket Number

0329-0004.01

(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)

Total Number of Pages in This Submission

the date shown below:

Typed or printed name

Jason Smalley

Signature

4	ENCLOSURES (Check all that apply)							
	Fee Transmittal Form Fee Attached Amendment/Reply After Final Affidavits/declaration(s) Extension of Time Request Express Abandonment Request Information Disclosure Statement Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) Reply to Missing Parts/ Incomplete Application Reply to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53			es Mail: EV 322849199 US	e Address CD	Cove Retui	After Allowance Communication to TC Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences Appeal Communication to TC (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief) Proprietary Information Status Letter Other Enclosure(s) (please Identify below): SB/08A (1 pages) r letter (3 pages in duplicate) n Receipt Postcard	
_		SIGNA	TURE	OF APPLICANT, ATT	ORNEY, C	R AGE	ENT	
Firm Name		Cook Alex McFarron Manzo Cummings Mehler						
Signature		(W) Clon						
Printed name		Andrew G. Kolomayets						
Date		September 19, 2005			Reg. No.	33,723		

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.5. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.11 and1.14. This collection is estimated to 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

09-19-2005

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

	,
In re application of:	CERTIFICATE OF MAILING
Ernst-Walter Hillebrand	BY "EXPRESS MAIL"
)
Serial No.: 10/618,352	"Express Mail" Mailing Label: EV322849199US
) Date of Deposit: September 19, 2005
Filed: July 11, 2003) I hereby certify that this paper or fee is being
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) and is addressed to: Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450
Art Unit:) P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450
) NAME: Jason Smalley
For: ALKALI ZINC NICKEL BATH	
	SIGNATURE:

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.97, Applicant hereby calls the Examiner's attention to documents listed on the attached form, which documents may be material to the examination of this application.

A copy of each of the documents was cited by or submitted to the Patent Office in the parent application, U.S. Application Serial No. 09/744,706, filed January 30, 2001 which is being relied upon for an earlier filing date under 35 USC § 120. Accordingly, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.98(d), copies of the documents are not being submitted herewith. If copies of such

documents are not available to the Examiner or are otherwise required, Applicant will gladly provide them.

No inference should be drawn that the attached list sets forth a comprehensive investigation of the prior art, that any or all are pertinent to the invention, or that any apparatus disclosed is equivalent to the subject invention.

The citation of the above-discussed documents is not to be construed as an assertion that more pertinent art could not possibly be in existence. Citation of any document herein is not to be construed as an admission that any subject matter disclosed in the document is necessarily within the inventive field of endeavor, that any disclosure is necessarily prior in time to a particular date which may be relevant to the instant patent application, and/or that any disclosure is otherwise necessarily prior art with respect to the instant invention.

Applicant also respectfully reserves the right to later set forth how the instant invention is distinguished over the disclosure of any document or other art, including the disclosure of those documents discussed herein, that may be cited by the Examiner in rejecting a claim in the instant patent application.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing of an Office Action on the merits. Accordingly, it is believed that no fee under 37 CFR § 1.97(c) is required. If it is determined that a fee is required for this Information Disclosure Statement, please charge our Deposit Account No. 50/1039.

Respectfully submitted,

Andrew G. Kolomayets Registration No. 33,723

COOK, ALEX, MCFARRON, MANZO, CUMMINGS & MEHLER, LTD. 200 West Adams Street - #2850 Chicago, IL 60606 (312) 236-8500

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PTO/SB/08A (08-00)

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Substitute for form 1449A/PTO

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet of

Complete if Known					
Application Number	10/618,352				
Filing Date	July 11, 2003				
First Named Inventor	Ernst-Walter Hillebrand				
Group Art Unit	1741				
Examiner Name					
Attorney Docket Number	0329-0004.01				

	U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
Examiner Initials	Cite No.1	Number (ii	ind Code ² f known)	Name of Patentee or Applicant	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear		
	1	4,832,812		Brown	05-1989			
	2	5,310,465		Vaughan	05-1994			
	3	5,405,523		Eckles	04-1995			
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS								
Examiner Initials*	Examiner Cite No.1		Foreign Patent Docum Number4	nent Kind Code ⁵ (if known)	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
	4	JP	58093886	Α	Tokuyama Soda Co. Ltd.	06/03/1983		
	5	EΡ	0 410 919	A1	Institut De Recherches De La	01/30/1991		
	6	JP	4176893		Kawasaki Steel Corp.	06/24/1992		
	7	DE	37 12 511	СЗ	Dipsol Chemicals Co., Ltd.	06/29/1995		
	8	EP	PCT/EP99/05443		Walter Hillebrand GMBH & Co.	04/04/2001		
	9	EP	PCT/EP99/05443		Walter Hillebrand GMBH & Co.	03/03/2000		
					-			

Examiner	Date	
Signature	Considered	

¹ Unique citation designation number. ² See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). 4 For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. 5 Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.



^{*}EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.